GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3401
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014
SURVEY ON CHILD HEALTH
Birla Shri Om

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted/proposes to conduct any survey/study to assess the health condition of children below six years of age in the country;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome/ findings thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to further improve the health condition of children in the said age category?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) & (b): Government has been conducting Surveys like, National Family Health Surveys (NFHS), District Level Household Surveys (DLHS), Annual Health Survey (AHS), Sample Registration System (SRS) etc to assess the performance of various health indicators including those for Children. Per- formance of some of the health indicators relating to children is given below.

Indicator	Value	Source (Year)
Neonatal Mortality Rate	29	SRS (2012)
Infant Mortality Rate	40	SRS (2013)
Under five Mortality Rate	52	SRS(2012)
Fully Immunized (%) Children aged 12-23 months	53.5	DLHS - 3 (2007-08)
% of Children aged under 3 years whose mother started breastfeeding within one hour of birth	40.5	DLHS - 3 (2007-08)
% of Children Under age 5 years classified as Underweight	42.5	NFHS -3 (2005-06)

(c): The steps taken by the Government to further improve the health condition of Children include the following:

1. Focussed attention in 184 High Priority Districts for implementation of Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child Health+ Adolescent (RMNCH+A) interventions for achieving improved maternal and child health outcomes.
2. Name Based Web enabled Tracking of Pregnant Women to ensure antenatal, intranatal and postnatal care and Children for immunization to all the children.
3. Mother and Child Protection Card in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development to monitor service delivery for mothers and children.
4. Engagement of more than 8.9 lakhs Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) to generate demand and facilitate accessing of health care services by the community including those for children.
5. Village Health and Nutrition Days in rural areas as an outreach activity, for provision of maternal and child health services. 6. Health and nutrition education to promote dietary diversification, inclusion of iron and folate rich food as well as food items that promote iron absorption.
7. Put in place similar entitlements for all sick infants accessing public health institutions for treatment.
8. Establishment of Newborn care corners at all health facilities where deliveries take place; Setting up of Special New Born Care Units and New Born Stabilization Units at appropriate facilities for the care of sick newborn including preterm babies.
9. Promotion of appropriate Infant and young child feeding practices such as early initiation of breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding and age appropriate complementary feeding among young children.
10. Launched India Newborn Action Plan to reduce neonatal mortality and stillbirths.

11. Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight was observed in August 2014 focussing on ORS and Zine distribution for management of diarrhoea and feeding practices.
12. Integrated Action Plan for Pneumonia and Diarrhoea launched in four States (Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan) with highest Child Mortality.